

hand boundary of orchard passing behind the tennis court. On far side of orchard, pass through gap in hedge to follow the left hand boundary of another orchard. Ahead you will see barns and oast house cowls. As the path becomes an earthen track and bears right to the barns, you should bear left to join a fenced path which leads to a road at the side of 'Barnfield Oast'.

5

Cross the road to a footpath, which is diagonally to the left. Path descends across field. Lamberhurst can be seen in valley and to the left. On joining field boundary hedge, walk immediately to the right of it. On meeting a junction of paths and gaps in hedges, bear left, aiming towards the right hand end of a modern barn. Here bear left to walk along track (ignore footpath leading diagonally to the right). Pass through gap at side of gate and on to concrete area, keeping to the right of industrial buildings. The track then becomes a road, Brewer Street, which joins the busy A21 road and Lamberhurst village. Turn right by the Chantry, a fine timber framed and jettied house, and return to the Chequers Inn.

On the building adjacent to the Chequers note the section of ornate section of railings. A plaque explains that this was made at Gloucester Forge seen and referred to earlier, i.e. a sample on the railings once encircling St Paul's cathedral.

BED & BREAKFAST

Frant

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Tel: 01892 750773 Fax: 01892 750773

WALK 15

Duration:
2.5 hours, 8 km approx.

Highlights:
Lovely wealden views and the charming village of Lamberhurst.

Terrain:
Undulating with a few steeper sections. Paths and tracks with some sections through crops and grass.

Refreshment facilities:
Chequers Inn and George & Dragon Inn, Lamberhurst. Short diversions to Swan and Brown Trout pubs at Lamberhurst Down.

Starting point:
Public Car Park (behind the Chequers Inn, Lamberhurst). O.S. Ref. 676362.

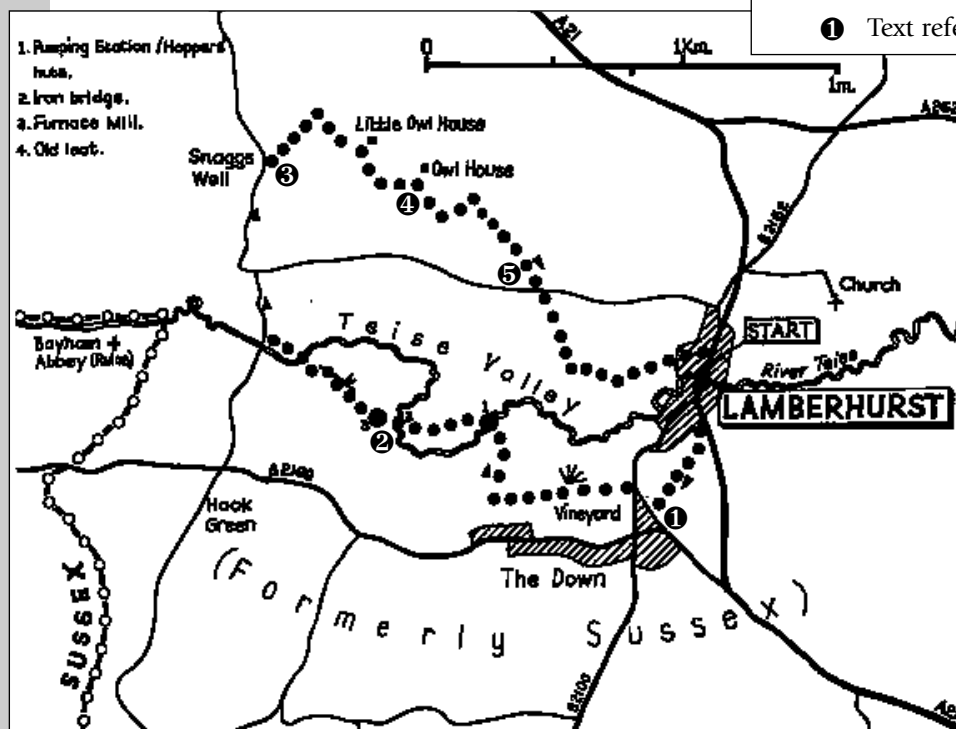
Transport facilities:
Bus Routes: 255 AK(NS), 256 AK/CO(NS).

NS: Not Sundays
AK: Arriva Kent & Sussex
Telephone: 01634 281100
CO: Coastal Coaches
Telephone: 01825 723024

Lamberhurst

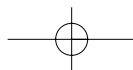
KEY


- Route
- 👁 View point
- Direction
- ① Text reference



Kent County Council (Licence No. LA 76708)

WALK BOUNDS
and eat the view



 **Route:** Standing with your back to the Chequers Inn, turn right to cross road (A21) at pedestrian crossing, then turn left towards Hastings. Pass the B2100 turning and continue walking uphill on the A21 road. Immediately after passing Tanyard Cottages, bear right, between bollards and onto footpath. Some 20 metres later at small car park, bear right to rear of houses onto slip road. At junction bear left climbing uphill towards waymark and kissing gate immediately to the right of bungalow number 61. Follow footpath around rear of bungalows and then climb the left hand boundary of field. Cross stile to continue along fenced path. On arriving at junction of tracks, go straight ahead, ignoring branch to the right. At this point there are fine wealden views - Lamberhurst village in the valley with, higher, church and manor. In the distance, Goudhurst. Continue by passing through gate and on along track to road. **1**

On joining road, turn right and continue to a junction. Walk for 20 metres down Town Hill, then left up steps to join a footpath with apple trees on the left and vines on the right.

Bayham Abbey can be seen in the distance and slightly to the right. This is not the original abbey, the ruins of which are situated below the more modern building and hidden by trees.

Proceed with apple trees on left which further on give way to vines, then a wooded area.

As the wood ends, ignore the track bearing left. Instead proceed ahead as indicated by footpath waymark i.e. immediately to the right of a boundary fence. As you walk along the fence line look to the left for an unusual oast/barn building. Descend steps to concrete track. At the surfaced track turn right and proceed. Eventually the track becomes rutted grass.

Notice the old huts to the left and right of the track. These were once hop pickers hovels. Against the rear wall, remains of crude fireplaces can be seen. Similar huts can be seen off to the right.

Immediately after passing the hovels pass through the left hand of two gates, and walk round the right hand boundary of field. On reaching the right hand corner of field, bear right into wooded area, and cross an iron bridge over the River Teise, to a paddock. **2**

This paddock was once the mill pond for Furnace Mill. In earlier times, Furnace Mill was the site of Gloucester Foundry and Hoathly Forge. Among its

other claims to notoriety Gloucester Forge produced the half mile of railing which in the past encircled St. Paul's cathedral. The present disused mill was a simple country corn mill, built in 1812. The wheel pit and massive oak axle of the waterwheel are still visible.

On joining a track by the buildings of Furnace Mill, turn right, pass stable (on left) and bear left to walk between more barns/outhouses. As drive ends continue straight ahead on grassy footpath, pass to the left of an open-ended barn and on to a surfaced track.

Note on the right what appears to be a dried up stream/river bed. This is all that remains of a 16th century leat built to supply water for Gloucester Forge (Furnace Mill).

After approximately 500 metres the track joins a road. On joining road turn right. After 300 metres and at road junction, take the left fork up Clay Hill Road, and continue for a further 500 metres. Take footpath right immediately opposite the house Snagg's Well and at a point where the road bears left. **3**

Snagg's Well is a white weather-boarded cottage with 1755 on its chimney.

Concrete waymark indicates the footpath. Descend through woodland to field. Cross field walking immediately to the right of a very large barn. At far side of field cross stile to enter more woodland. Ignore a gate, which is well to the left of stile. Continue through woodland, cross footbridge over stream and on to pass between conifers. Bear right and walk under power lines to join a more distinct grassy path. Here turn right, pass through small wooded area, over stream and on to emerge at open ground. Climb to far side of field then turn right to follow field boundary round to old deserted cottage (according to old maps - Little Owl House). Here turn right descending to the valley floor, then climb steeply. At top of slope, bear to the left, following waymark into woodland. Emerge at an orchard, to walk along the left hand boundary. Cross stile at the point where trees give way to a post & rail fence. The enclosed path leads to a gate and driveway of Owl House. **4**

Turn right at driveway and proceed up drive to turn left after passing converted oast house and parking area and fruit packing station. The footpath passes storage tanks then becomes enclosed by fences. Join orchard and walk down left hand boundary. After passing tennis court, turn right (ignore stile ahead). Walk on round left